

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 11494 091729Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /062 W
-----033180 100351Z /12

R 091721Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1744
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

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USEEC

PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY
PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD
GENEVA ALSO FOR USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EEC
SUBJ: COPA PROTESTS AGAINST CORESPONSIBILITY LEVY

REF: EC A-349

1. COPA (EC-WIDE COMMITTEE OF FARMER ORGANIZATIONS)
RECENTLY ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE VIGOROUSLY PROTESTING
THE IMPOSITION OF THE CORESPONSIBILITY LEVY ON MILK
PRODUCERS (REFAIR). COPA STATED THAT THE PRECONDITIONS
IT HAD SET FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE LEVY, "IN PARTICULAR
THE SETTING UP OF A GLOBAL POLICY ON FATS, INCLUDING
THE LEVY OF A TAX ON FATS," HAD NOT BEEN MET. COPA
ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT CONTINUED IMPORTS OF DAIRY
PRODUCTS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES (I.E., NEW ZEALAND).
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 11494 091729Z

THE CORESPONSIBILITY LEVY IS DUE TO BE APPLIED AS OF
SEPTEMBER 16, 1977.

2. IN THE PRESS RELEASE, COPA REQUESTED:

A. THAT EC REGULATIONS BE REVISED TO PROVIDE FOR
THE POSSIBILITY OF FIXING THE CORESPONSIBILITY LEVY AT

ZERO, AND

B. THAT THE DATE OF APPLICATION OF THE LEVY BE POSTPONED IN THE EVENT THAT ANY MEMBER STATE IS UNABLE TO APPLY THE CORESPONSIBILITY LEVY AS OF SEPTEMBER 16. APPARENTLY SOME MEMBER STATES (ITALY IS MOST OFTEN MENTIONED) MAY NOT APPLY THE LEVY ON SEPTEMBER 16 ON GROUNDS OF ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES.

3. COPA OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE PROTEST HAD BEEN ENGINEERED BY THE DUTCH DELEGATION. HE SAID THAT THE COPA SECRETARIAT ITSELF REGARDED THE CORESPONSIBILITY LEVY AS ONE OF THE LESSER EVILS THAT COULD BE INFLICTED UPON EC MILK PRODUCERS AND WERE NOT SERIOUSLY PRESSING FOR A COMMISSION RETREAT ON THIS ISSUE. HOWEVER, HE DID FEEL THAT THERE WAS A REAL POSSIBILITY OF WIDE-SPREAD RESISTANCE TO THE APPLICATION OF THE TAX IN SEVERAL OF THE MEMBER STATES, IN PARTICULAR, BELGIUM, FRANCE, AND ITALY.

4. COMMISSION OFFICIALS SAY THEY REGARD PRESS REPORTS OF OPPOSITION TO THE TAX AS EXAGGERATED. THEY SAY THEY STILL EXPECT APPLICATION OF THE CORESPONSIBILITY TAX AS SCHEDULED (WITH POSSIBLY A DELAY IN ITALY). HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILK, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, TARIFFS, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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